

OFFERS FREE CANAL

New Proposition Sprung by Colombian Government.

REYES IN WASHINGTON

Representative from Bogota Makes His Mission Known—Not a Cent Will Be Asked for Concessions for Waterway.

That the republic of Colombia grant to the United States all the concessions provided for in the Hay-Herran treaty, but absolutely free of cost, is the proposition which General Reyes, envoy of Colombia to the United States on special mission, brings for the consideration of the administration. General Reyes arrived at Washington shortly after 9 o'clock Saturday morning. He was met at the station by a son of Dr. Herran.

General Reyes talked with a representative of the Associated Press about his mission. He said:

"You will readily admit the propriety of my refraining from discussing my mission, which is of a confidential character, but of the others which Colombia is ready to make, I desire to say that my energies and those of my fellows will be devoted to the granting of the canal concessions to the United States without the payment of a cent. Even if this Colombia will be the gainer."

"Are you authorized by President Marroquin to make this offer to the Washington government?" General Reyes was asked.

"That would be divulging my instructions before I have executed them. I cannot say more about this now," he replied.

"You can further say," continued the general, "that all Colombia is afire with the zeal for the building of the canal by the United States and that the unfortunate political troubles which were the sole cause of the treaty's death before the Colombian congress have entirely disappeared. We want the canal and I have come to Washington to see what the people of the United States are prepared to accept. I come with instructions from the president of Colombia direct. My mission is no way will interfere with the prerogative of Dr. Herran, the Colombian chargé for whom both my government and myself personally have the greatest respect. I shall be in daily conference with him."

"What is the feeling in Colombia about the Panama revolution?"

"Feeling is running high, and there is indignation over the events on the isthmus. We can and will put down the rebellion if not interfered with from the outside. So tense is the feeling and so national the spirit of determination to bring the isthmus back into the republic that President Marroquin will have no trouble in raising an army twice the size necessary to put down the disturbance. Such an army can march overland to the isthmus, the opinion of ill-advised persons to the contrary notwithstanding."

"What can the United States do, now that a treaty has been signed by Secretary Hay and M. Bunau-Varilla?"

"That treaty has not been ratified. The Colombian government does not ask the United States to aid it in putting down the revolution on the isthmus. All we ask is to be allowed to conduct our own affairs free from outside interference. The Colombian government can put down the rebellion without violating a letter of the treaty of 1846. I refer to the treaty that we always have respected and adhered to, and not to the treaty as interpreted in these later days. If the United States maintains a neutral position, the revolution will be put down."

When his attention was called to the report from Panamans and other sources that he had come to Washington to conduct a lobby to defeat the ratification of the treaty, he said very emphatically:

"I authorize the Associated Press to say for me at the outset of my visit that my movements here shall be strictly in accordance with the powers with which I am clothed."

FATALITIES ON THE GRIDIRON.

Seventeen Deaths and Scores of Players Injured During Past Season.

The old question as to whether football is worth the while is being seriously discussed all over the country again just as another football season has come to an end.

During the past season seventeen persons have been killed and over sixty-three others more or less badly injured. And even this large number of injured does not cover the ground, for many injuries never find their way into the newspapers.

GOOD OLD AMERICAN WAY.

Grafting in Vogue on Large Scale in Hawaiian Islands.

The federal grand jury, in Honolulu, which was charged by the late Judge Bates, reported Monday to his successor, Judge Dole. The report accuses the late legislature of systematic and monumental "grafting" and recklessness in the granting of warrants for work never done and for excessive over charges.

SUPPOSED TO BE ANTHRAX.

Dread Disease Kills Mules and Horses in Columbus, Ga.

In the opinion of the Columbus, Ga., board of health, based upon microscopic examination of the blood of the dead animals, anthrax, a disease which has at times proven a terror to Europe, destroying horses and cattle by the thousands, is the cause of the death of six mules and a horse of Senbrook & Crawford. The stock died very suddenly, and it was supposed that they had been poisoned.

MR. WILSON'S REPORT.

Secretary of Agriculture Forwards Annual Statement of His Department to President.

The seventh annual report of the present secretary of agriculture has been submitted to the president. It opens with a discussion of the educational work of the department. Although the department has availed itself to the fullest extent of graduates of the agricultural colleges, it has been necessary, in view of the rapid development of the work, to secure competent men wherever they could be found. In the training of specialists for its various lines of work, the department has become practically a post-graduate institute. Mr. Wilson, in illustration of this fact, reports the admission to the department since 1897 of 496 students; 249 of these are still in the department, not less than 132 having passed into the classified service.

Although the consumption of cotton in this country is greater than that of any other country in the world, yet, in addition to supplying the home market, the south exported last year over 3,500,000,000 pounds of cotton, worth \$337,000,000.

Of grain and grain products, the export exceeded in value \$221,000,000, and in the supply of animals, meats, and meat products, the value of exportation was \$211,000,000.

Discussing the balance of trade, the secretary shows that the favorable balance to the credit of this country is due entirely to the farmers. The balance of trade in favor of farm products during the last fourteen years, no year excepted, aggregated \$4,806,000,000. In products, other than those of the farm, during the same period, the balance of trade was adverse to this country to the extent of \$556,000,000.

Our farmers not only canceled this immense obligation, but placed \$2,940,000,000 to the credit of the nation when the books of international exchange were balanced. He concludes that "it is the farmers who have paid the foreign bondholders."

Reviewing the magnitude of agricultural production, after giving the figures of the most important crops, Mr. Wilson states that the value of all farm products, not fed to live stock, for 1903, considerably exceeded their value in the census year, when it was given at \$3,742,000,000.

According to the department's inventory of farm animals for January 1, 1903, the value of horses was over \$1,000,000,000; mules, nearly \$200,000,000. The value of cattle of all kinds considerably exceeded \$1,300,000,000, of sheep \$168,000,000, and of hogs, \$855,000,000.

THIRTY MINUTES OF TALK.

House Holds Short Session and Adjourns Until Friday.

The house, after being in session for a little more than an hour, Tuesday adjourned until Friday. The time was almost wholly consumed in discussion, which was largely a tariff debate. When Mr. Payne had offered the motion to adjourn over, Mr. Williams, the minority leader, suggested that they would like about thirty minutes on a side for debate, whereupon Mr. Payne asked the consent of the house. The speaker announcing the request said: "The gentleman from New York, at the suggestion of the gentleman from Mississippi, asks unanimous consent that there be thirty minutes' talk on a side."

In turning it a "talk" instead of debate the speaker evoked laughter from both sides of the house.

GIRL IN BRAZEN ROLE.

Sweetheart of Boy Bandit Exhibits Herself in Dime Museum.

Detective Joseph Driscoll, who was shot in the fight with the boy bandits in Indiana, died in Chicago Tuesday. The sweetheart of one of the bandits has been on exhibition in a dime museum for several days. Mayor Harrison wrote to the proprietor and told him that in the interest of decent citizenship the exhibition should cease, all the more so as the death of Detective Driscoll added to the offense.

SENSATION STIRS GRAND RAPIDS.

Ex-City Attorney Implicates Host of Citizens in Crooked Dealings.

The confession of ex-City Attorney Lant K. Salisbury, in regard to the notorious water scandal in Grand Rapids, Mich., was told Monday for the first time in court at the preliminary examination of State Senator David Burns, and it has created a tremendous sensation on account of the number of prominent persons it implicates, in addition to the seventeen officials and former officials who were arrested on bribery charges some ten days ago.

QUICK TRIAL FOR BANDITS.

Case of Young Desperadoes at Chicago Taken Up by Grand Jury.

At Chicago, Saturday, while Harvey Vandine, Peter Neidermeier and Emil Roelski sat silently in their cells at the Harrison street police station, the story of their crimes were being presented to the grand jury.

Following the return of indictments it is planned to have the young desperadoes brought to immediate trial.

BANKRUPT IS BEATTY.

Former Partner of Hobson in Debt to Amount of \$77,297.

A voluntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in the clerk's office of the United States court at Atlanta, Ga., Saturday, by W. H. Beatty, formerly of the firm of Beatty, Hobson & Co., of which Captain Richmond Pearson member.

In the summary of the debts, the liabilities are placed at \$77,297.50. The only assets that appear are clothes and personal effects value at \$200.

DOWIE IN TROUBLE

Zion City Goes to Smash in a Financial Tangle.

RECEIVERS TAKE CHARGE

Alleged Prophet "Elijah II" Insolvent to Extent of About Thirty Millions—His Followers Desert Him.

A Chicago dispatch says: Financial difficulties which began during the crusade of John Alexander Dowie, the self-styled "Elijah II," and his restoration host to New York a month ago and which have been rapidly increasing since Dowie's return, culminated Tuesday night in the federal courts taking possession of all the property controlled by Dowie in Zion City, Ill. This town, which was founded two years ago by Dowie, has a population of over ten thousand, is the general headquarters for Dowie's church and is said to represent an expenditure of \$20,000,000.

Frederick M. Blount, cashier of the Chicago national bank, and Albert D. Currier, a law partner of Congressman Boutwell, were appointed receivers of the property. Their bonds were fixed at \$100,000 by Judge Kohlsaat, of the United States district court, who made the appointment on the petition of several creditors. The receivers left Chicago Tuesday night for Zion City to take possession of the property.

Insolvency Alleged.

The bankruptcy proceedings against Dowie were based on the allegation that he is insolvent, and that while in this financial condition he committed an act of bankruptcy by making a preferential payment on November 2 to the Streeter Lumber Company for \$2,770. Dowie has been hard pressed by his creditors, especially since it was announced that his recent mission to New York had proved unsuccessful financially.

Dowie is known to have accumulated a large sum as the head of the Christian Catholic church, the assets of the organization being estimated at between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000. There was a large outlay of money, however, when Zion City was started. Then lace and candy industries were started, and as both of these ventures have never been a paying investment, a great deal of money was tied up.

Wednesday, a week ago, Dowie's first confession of weakness was made at a rally in the tabernacle at Zion City.

"A lot of you people have cash in your pockets," Dowie said to his followers. "Rig down and get it out. It is God's and we need it in His work. You are cowards if you do not give it up. Deposit it."

Dowie talked in the same strain for more than an hour, tears glistening on his cheek as he told of the financial straits in which the Zion industries found themselves.

Instead of frightening many into depositing, this appeal sent a long line of people to the bank on the next day, where they lined up at the paying teller's window, drawing out their money.

Failed to Get Funds.

Monday another effort was made by Dowie to get funds, but the depositors who appeared were few and the deposits were chiefly in trivial amounts. Tuesday Dowie asked the members of Zion more urgently than ever for money. He declared that he must have \$500,000 without delay. In the efforts to remedy the condition of affairs at Zion City hundreds of letters were sent out to Dowie's followers in other parts of the country. In these letters all Dowieites are urged, almost commanded, to sell their farms, stores and everything else and come to the rescue.

It is declared that the employees of the manufacturing industries have not been paid in from four to six weeks. Recently Dowie made a trip through the various shops. He told his followers and others that they must either wait for their salaries or must endure a substantial cut in wages. This was agreed to.

ELKS DRAW COLOR LINE.

Members of Order in Mississippi Object to Colored Organization.

Protests are being received in Jackson, Miss., from Elks-all over the state against the issuance of a charter to the "Elks of America, Asia and Africa," which is a colored organization.

Every Elks lodge in the state is making a vigorous kick against having a colored organization of the same name. It is probable that an injunction will be gotten out restraining the secretary from placing the charter on the records.

SOCIALISTS AGAINST LYNCHING.

Manifesto of Protest Issued by International Bureau of Order.

The international socialist bureau at Brussels, Belgium, has issued a manifesto protesting against the lynching of negroes in the United States and urging the American working people not to permit the governing classes to divert their attention from the social question by encouraging racial war.

LETTER CLARIFIES SITUATION.

Democrats Finally Convinced of Cleveland's Elimination.

Washington has been teeming with gossip about democratic presidential possibilities in the light of the letter of ex-President Cleveland, which is construed as the most positive possible disclaimer of a purpose to let his name figure in the next national convention. His letter is taken as a valuable contribution toward the clarification of the democratic atmosphere.

GOOD FOR SEABOARD.

Atlantic and Birmingham May Soon Become Part and Parcel of Great System—New Owners Active.

There is every reason to believe that the Atlantic and Birmingham railroad, which has been acquired by eastern interests, represented in this section by H. M. Atkinson, will become a part of the Seaboard Air Line, and that it will be used as a connecting link between the lines of that system in south Georgia and Florida, and those in the northern section of the state. It will also give the Seaboard a direct line from Birmingham to the seacoast by means of the extension from Montezuma to Birmingham along the route already mapped out.

The announcement in The Atlanta Constitution of Sunday that the eastern interests represented by Mr. Atkinson had acquired the Atlantic and Birmingham, running from Waycross to Montezuma, and would consolidate it with the Tifton, Thomasville and Gulf and the Tifton and Northeastern, caused no little comment in railroad circles. It promises to prove one of the most important railroad movements that has taken place in Georgia in some years.

Prominent among the eastern capitalists who are represented in this section by Mr. Atkinson is T. Jefferson Coolidge, of Boston, Mass. Mr. Coolidge has just acquired an extensive interest in the Seaboard Air Line, and will, with Thomas F. Ryan, become one of the important factors in shaping the future of that property.

The purchase by these same interests of the Atlantic and Birmingham, and its consolidation with the other roads named, undoubtedly means an important step in the development of the Seaboard system in this section.

The Seaboard system at present is in the shape of a big "Y," with no connecting link between the two prongs, one of which extends into south Georgia and Florida, and the other into Atlanta. By the construction of the Atlantic and Birmingham to Atlanta from Montezuma, its present terminus, the necessary connection between the main system will be established, and if the originally contemplated extension of this line to Birmingham is made, the Seaboard will have acquired two lines to the west, the other two being extensions of the East and West railroad, which is just now in process of completion between Birmingham and Atlanta.

Meers, Coolidge, Blair and their associates will probably come through this section at an early date, with a view to arranging their new plans. The Seaboard is undergoing some radical changes, as has been announced in the press for the past few weeks, and new blood has been injected into the veins of the road.

Those who have been watching the situation will not be surprised to learn of any new developments within the next few weeks.

T. Jefferson Coolidge, Jr., of Boston, and his associates have obtained a large share of the stock of the road, and they mean to make it one of the first systems of the United States. All the interests represented in the new deal appreciate the work of John Skelton Williams, the president of the Seaboard, and they speak in the very highest terms of his labors for the upbuilding of the south.

The fact that the Seaboard will not be combined with any other southern system can be accepted absolutely. This is obtained from the highest sources. All future developments will be watched with the greatest interest by the people of this section.

TROUBLE OVER TRADING STAMPS

Columbus Merchant Appeals to Court and Secures Injunction.

A temporary injunction was granted by Judge Butt, at Columbus, Ga., restraining the Atlanta Trading Stamp Company from supplying their stamps to other dry goods merchants than the Schuessler Company in the city.

The Schuessler Company are handling the stamps, and the stamp people made a deal with the Bee Hive. Schuessler claims they violated a contract they had with him. The hearing will be had December 18.

MAFIA AGAIN SHOWS UP.

Italian Merchant Lured to Death by Band in New Orleans.

Giuseppe Imposato, a prominent Italian macaroni manufacturer, was murdered in New Orleans Sunday night.

The affair bore all the earmarks of the Mafia, he having been lured to an out-of-the-way neighborhood on an apparently friendly mission.

During the excitement over the assassination of Chief of Police Hennessey, some years ago, he was held as a suspect, but was released before the trial and lynching.

FIGHT BEGINS ON BOLL WEEVIL.

Convention is Held in New Orleans to Inaugurate Plan of Warfare.

Delegates from the parishes of Louisiana gathered in New Orleans Monday to take part in the boll weevil convention called by Governor Heard. The meeting will decide whether or not the necessity exists for a special session of the state legislature to pass laws which will be of effect in keeping the boll weevil out of Louisiana.

SAVANNAH PEOPLE INTERESTED.

Release of Convict Captain Carter Topic of Local Gossip.

There is a great deal of interest in Savannah, Ga., in the release from the military prison of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, of ex-Captain Carter, of the corps of engineers of the United States army. It was in Savannah that the speculations which led to Carter's arrest and final conviction occurred. He was one of the most favored of the inner circle in Savannah.

WOOD IS SCORED

General Brooke Testifies Before Senate Committee.

BAD BREACH CHARGED

Wood Accused of Ignoring Orders of His Superior—May Have to Return from Manila to Testify.

Major General John R. Brooke, retired, formerly governor general of Cuba, gave testimony before the senate committee on military affairs Monday which charged insubordination against General Leonard Wood. General Brooke was before the committee more than two hours and occupied the entire time in telling of Wood's conduct at Santiago. The witness offered in support of his statements many documents taken from records at the war department and several papers from his personal collection. At the close of his testimony, a member of the committee said it is probable General Wood will have to return from the Philippines and testify.

One of the charges made by General Brooke is that General Wood violated the order which required him in making improvements in Santiago to submit estimates to the governor general. As evidence of this violation General Brooke called attention to the building of barracks at Santiago, near the Morro, without General Wood's first having given notice to the department at Havana. General Brooke said also that General Wood continually sent communications to the war department over the head of his commanding officer. The witness assured the committee that he cared nothing for the ignoring of his authority, but said that the proceeding had been detrimental to military discipline.

General Brooke called to the attention of the committee in support of an allegation that General Wood had neglected to work in harmony with the military government, the matter of General Wood's attitude toward the newspapers at Santiago, which repeatedly made attacks on General Brooke's administration. General Brooke read a number of these attacks and also his recommendation to the war department that the papers be suppressed unless they desisted.

Wanted Freedom of Speech.

One of the extracts from The Independence, published at Santiago, which was read was a bitter denunciation of General Brooke, under the caption of "God Save Cuba." The article was based on General Brooke's order for the centralization of affairs of the island by which receipts from all custom houses were ordered sent to Havana. The article, among other things, said that if carried into effect, the order soon would prohibit the people of Santiago from breathing without permission from General Brooke; that it was a matter of life and death to the province of Santiago to get the order rescinded.

General Brooke read a letter which he had sent to the adjutant general of the war department asking that General Wood be instructed to prohibit the publication of such articles during the period of military government. He also read General Wood's reply to the adjutant general, which, the witness said, had been sent over the head of his superior officer, saying that freedom of speech, untrammelled criticism of the military government and absolute independence in all matters, were a necessary part of the education of the Cubans to fit them to conduct a liberal government.

LAREDO OPEN TO WORLD.

Governor of Texas Raises the Yellow Fever Quarantine.

Governor Laaham of Texas, issued a proclamation Monday raising the yellow fever quarantine, which has been in force against Laredo since September 26.

During the prevalence of the epidemic there have been 225 cases, 99 of which resulted fatally.

ATLANTA, PIONEER DEAD.

Conducted Business at One Stand Continuously Since 1857.

Peter Lynch, one of Atlanta's oldest and best known citizens, died Wednesday morning after an illness of some time. He was 76 years old when death came to him and had seen many changes during his long career.

Born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1827, Mr. Lynch emigrated to America in 1843.

He had been in business at his stand at 95 Whitehall street continuously since 1857.

TYPHOID RAVAGES TOWN.

Diphtheria Now an Added Terror to People at Butler, Pa.

Four deaths and twenty-five new cases was the typhoid fever record Tuesday in Butler, Pa. Six new physicians from other places were added to the local staff.

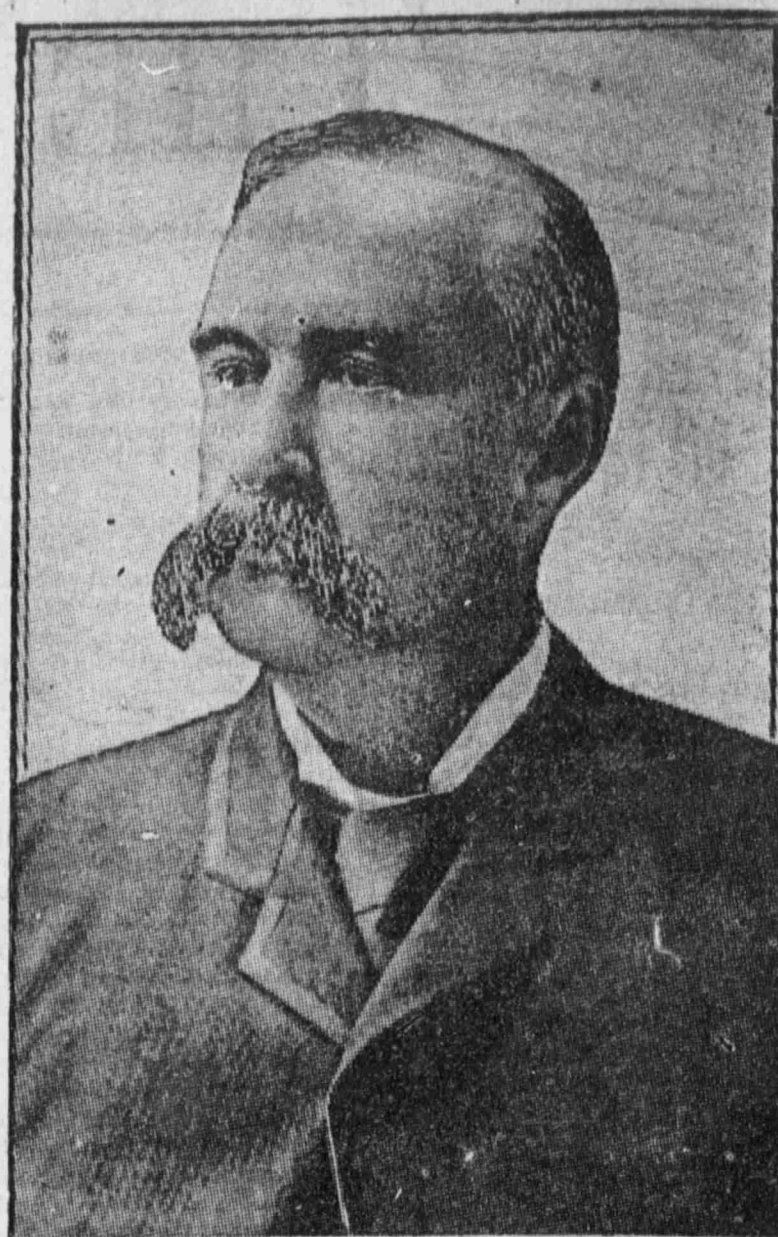
The worst feature of the day's developments was the appearance of diphtheria in three of the twenty-two children who have fever at St. Paul's Orphan home.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW UPHELD.

United States Supreme Court Passes Upon Its Constitutionality.

The United States supreme court Monday affirmed the constitutionality of the eight-hour law of the state of Kansas regulating labor on public works. Justice Harlan said that if the statute is mischievous, the responsibility rests with the legislators and not the courts. Chief Justice Fuller and Justice Brewer and Peckham dissented.

JUDGE GEORGE GRAY.



Judge Gray, Delaware's most noted jurist and head of the anthracite coal commission of last year, has lately been mentioned as a possible candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination next year. Judge Gray was United States Senator from 1885 to 1890, and in 1898 was appointed one of the Paris peace commissioners, who negotiated the treaty of Paris transferring the Philippine Islands and Porto Rico to the United States. He was a member of the joint high commission at Quebec in 1898, and in 1900 was appointed a member of the international commission of arbitration under The Hague convention.

An Odd Corn Crib.

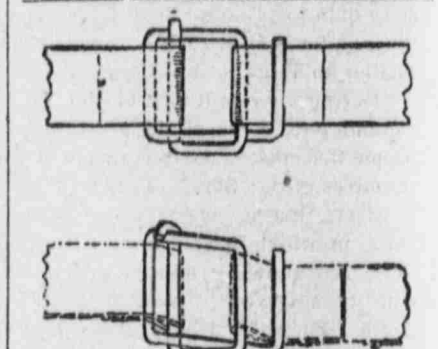
A Novel Method of Outwitting the Rats and Mice.

Every possible device is resorted to at this season of the year—when the old corn is becoming scarce and the new corn seems a long way off at planting time—to protect the grain from thieving rodents. One of the most ingenious contrivances was encountered the other day at the back of a suburban lawn, where the one well-filled corn crib stood near a stable sheltering the family driving horse. Evidently the rats were not to deprive that horse of his rightful share of good, sweet yellow corn, for six bright new galvanized buckets had been sacrificed for its protection. The crib has been mounted upon six strong cedar posts and on the top of these supports are the six large pails. When Mister Rodent smells the tempting corn and scrambles up the posts to enter the crib he finds himself baffled by a great enveloping roof of tin.

COTTON TIE BUCKLE.

The Tighter the Pull, the Stronger It Holds.

An important improvement in the method of tying cotton bales has been recently made by a Southern genius. The buckle is made of a single piece



NEW COTTON TIE BUCKLE.

of wire bent as shown in the illustration, and which, owing to the ingenious disposition of the several planes of its component parts, is self-binding without the necessity of riveting or otherwise permanently securing the same. In making use of the device it is not necessary that the buckle should rest against the material forming the bale in order to hold the band in position, the strain on the band providing sufficient locking effect. According to the inventor it is practically impossible for the band thus tied to work loose, as in all cases the grip of the buckle increases with the strain. He asserts that the use of these ties will effect a considerable economy, in the fact that it is often found necessary under the present methods to put a bale in the compress a second time simply because of the fact that the bands have become loosened, which operation is entirely dispensed with by this new system.

The Wireless Between Islands.

A French company has been operating an electric cable between the islands of Gaudeloupe and Martinique, but the lines have been broken for some time, and now the wireless system has been put in use. The United States Consul at Gaudeloupe reports that the service is satisfactory, with only occasional interruptions by reason of weather conditions. About thirty messages a day are transmitted.

MOST NORTHERLY OF CHURCHES.



This is the most northerly church in the world. The little wooden building is situated in the highest North of Siberia, seventy-two miles north of the city of Yakutsk, which has the fame of being the coldest city on the globe times in the year. The little church was discovered by a German explorer. Eternal snow surrounds that district.